

**TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
JUNE 22, 2009**

DOCKET ITEM: 4

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to remove the curbside westbound lane of West Braddock Road between West Alexandria Avenue and Ruffner Road to install a bicycle lane and continue the bicycle lane to West Windsor Avenue.

APPLICANT: City of Alexandria

LOCATION: 200 through 700 Blocks of West Braddock Road

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the curbside lane be removed to install a bicycle lane and that the bicycle lane be continued to West Windsor Avenue.

DISCUSSION: West Braddock Road (westbound) west of Commonwealth Avenue goes from a two-lane section to a four-lane section at the signalized intersection with Russell Road. Here, West Braddock Road continues west past Russell Road as a four-lane section with two lanes in either direction to a merge at Ruffner Road where the two westbound lanes become one lane. These lane configurations and transitions cause safety problems for adjacent residents, bus operators and merging motorists.

This roadway is scheduled for roadway maintenance this summer, including repaving from West Windsor Avenue and Russell Road. As part of the repaving project, the City proposes to reduce West Braddock Road between the 200 and 500 blocks to three lanes. There would be no lane changes west of Ruffner Road. The configuration on the hill between West Alexandria Avenue and Ruffner Road would be as follows:

- Westbound (from West Alexandria Avenue): One 11' wide lane and one 6' wide bicycle lane to Ruffner Road.
- Eastbound (from Ruffner Road): One 10' inside lane and one 11' wide curbside lane.

A 5' wide bicycle lane would be continued on West Braddock Road to West Windsor Avenue. Shared-use lane markings ("sharrows") would be placed on the eastbound lanes, including the downhill section between Ruffner Road and West Alexandria Avenue to ensure bicycle markings are provided on both sides of the roadway.

These changes are supported by adjacent residents on West Braddock Road who have expressed concerns about driveway visibility, speeding uphill and unsafe merges. The change is also supported by DASH and WMATA as a safety improvement for westbound buses.

By beginning the westbound lane drop at West Alexandria Avenue, the City believes motorist transitions on the bottom of the hill will be safer and there will be no impacts to the lane figuration at the Russell Road intersection. The addition of bicycle lanes will improve bicyclist and pedestrian safety and is recommended in the city's Transportation Master Plan (Pedestrian and Bicycle Mobility Plan).

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DOCKET ITEM: 5

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to remove one parking space and install “NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER “sign at the intersection of 500 block of Franklin Street at the 600 block of South Saint Asaph Street on the north side of the street.

APPLICANT: Mitchell Bernstein 626 South Asaph Street

LOCATION: 500 block of Franklin Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of this request.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bernstein states that the intersection of Franklin Street and South Asaph Street is very hazardous for pedestrians crossing the street. Vehicles are parking close to the corner on South Asaph Street and making it very difficult for pedestrians to cross the street. The stop sign is partially obstructed by a tree and is also hidden by large vehicles (SUV’s) parked in front of it. Pulling parking away from the intersection will greatly improve site distance and make the intersection safer for pedestrians and vehicles.

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DOCKET ITEM: **6**

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to install “NO PARKING BETWEEN SIGNS” signs restrictions on both sides of the driveway at 1023 North Royal Street.

APPLICANT: Paul S. Frommer 1023 North Royal Street

LOCATION: 1000 Block North Royal Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

DISCUSSION: This request was submitted by Mr. Paul S. Frommer who is having stated vehicles are parking too close to the driveway obstructing the visibility of motorists exiting the driveway onto North Royal street. The proposed restrictions will help alleviate the problem.

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DOCKET ITEM: 7

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to install” NO PARKING BETWEEN SIGNS” restrictions on both sides of the alley in the 300 block of Wolfe Street on the south side of the street.

APPLICANT: Frey & Sher Associates, Inc.

LOCATION: 300 Block of Wolfe Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

DISCUSSION: This request was submitted by the residents of the 400 block of North Fairfax Street and North Royal Street who excess the alley on the 300 block Wolfe Street
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DOCKET ITEM: 8

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to install NO PARKING FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. THURSDAY on the west side of the 1300 block of Newton Street 40' feet south of the alley.

APPLICANT: City Of Alexandria

LOCATION: 1300 Block Newton Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

DISCUSSION: This request was submitted by the Solid Waste Division who states when large vehicles are parking too close to the alley the trash trucks are having difficult time maneuvering into the alley. An early model fire truck and limousine that park too close to the alley on the west side of the Newton Street making makes it difficult to maneuver into the alley on the east side of the side of Newton Street. Removing 40 feet of parking on the south of the alley on the west side of Newton Street will make maneuvering safer when making the turn into the alley on the west side of the street.